



USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

Template Version 2.09

Voluntary Report - Public distribution

**Date:** 1/23/2008

**GAIN Report Number:** UP8002

## Ukraine

### Poultry and Products

## Avian Influenza Case Registered on a Poultry Farm in Southern Ukraine

2008

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**Report Highlights:**

On January 17, 2008, an outbreak of avian influenza was confirmed on a farm in Crimea that produces eggs. The State Committee of Veterinary Medicine of Ukraine has taken measures to localize the outbreak. The outbreak is not expected to influence consumption of poultry or import policies.

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Includes PSD Changes: No  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Annual Report  
Kiev [UP1]  
[UP]

On January 17, 2008, the first case of avian influenza was recorded for the 2007/08 winter season in Ukraine. The official announcement was posted on the official web site of the State Committee of Veterinary Medicine that same day.

The affected poultry facility (a private company named Lobzenko) had 25,000 birds and is located in Rivne Village (Crimea). The Central State Scientific Institute for Laboratory Diagnostics and Veterinary-Sanitary Expertise (formerly known as Central Veterinary Laboratory) confirmed the virus subtype to be H5N1. The first dead chickens were detected on January 15 (6 hens), and on January 16, fifteen more birds were found dead. During the night of January 16-17, fifty-six birds were found dead, and on July 17, forty-six more were found dead. The first samples were collected and taken for testing on January 16, 2008.

The Veterinary Service, the Ministry of Emergency Situations and other law enforcement authorities were very quick to respond. The outbreak took place in the same general area as the outbreak of 2005/06, and was anticipated by Ukraine's veterinarians. At 6 pm on January 20, the GOU reported that the outbreak had been contained and the facility completely disinfected.

The disinfection and culling began on January 17, 2008 by a task force comprised from the Ministry of Emergency Situations, State Veterinary Service, Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Health. All 25,000 birds have been destroyed (burned in pits outside of the village). Specialized equipment including 10 mechanical disinfectant sprayers as well as 6 gasoline sprayers were brought in to disinfect the site. 800 kilos of yellow agent (napalm from military supplies) were delivered to the site of the outbreak and were used to burn the birds. The task force disinfected over 8,600 square meters of the facility and over 16,000 square meters of surrounding areas.

Authorities also established sanitary zones around the village and surrounding areas. The movement of poultry products has also been restricted within the Krasnogvardiysky rajon. However, there are no limitations to movement of poultry to and from Crimea to the rest of Ukraine.

Specialists are also monitoring human and poultry health conditions in the area. Over 200 groups were created to examine over 316,000 birds in over 800 villages. Approximately 20 local industrial poultry farms were inspected.

The cause of the infection is not yet determined and veterinary officials are attempting to avoid speculation until the reason is confirmed. However, a nearby fresh water pond used by the farm is suspected to be the source of infection. It's suspected that wild waterfowl may have contaminated an open pond.